FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 APRIL 1985

Lebanon

Israeli Withdrawal — Emphasizing the "unilateral decision" to evacuate IDF forces from the Al-Biqa' valley, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told IDF radio that the next withdrawal will occur in about a month, allowing time to prepare the security zone and examine Syrian reaction.

Internal Affairs — The conferees at the Islamic meeting in Damascus have agreed that security in West Beirut should be the responsibility of the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade and the Internal Security Forces, pending implementation of a wider plan to abolish contact lines and reunify the capital, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam announced in a statement reported by Damascus radio. The Army will be assisted by the joint security forces established by the Amal movement and its allies subject to the approval of a security committee headed by the 6th Brigade commander, he added. Khaddam also announced that Prime Minister Rashid Karami has rescinded his resignation, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Meanwhile, the Phalangist Lebanese Forces completed their withdrawal from the Sidon area, the Voice of Lebanon noted, but the Lebanese Army has not yet deployed in the areas vacated by the Phalangists.

Sudan

Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) leader Colonel John Garang affirmed that negotiations currently underway with the Sudanese Armed Forces "junior officers" are "positive" and that there still are "reasonably good prospects" for an SPLA alliance with an eventual people's government, the clandestine SPLA radio reported. However, the SPLA is continuing operations against the Sudanese Army in the Upper Nile region, the radio noted, and an SPLA commander declared that the rebels intend to continue the armed struggle into the "northern part" of Sudan.

Meanwhile, in decrees broadcast by Omdurman radio, the Transitional Military Council announced a reorganization of the presidential general secretariat. In another development, the secretary general of the Sudanese Communist Party has appeared in Khartoum after spending 14 years in hiding, SUNA noted. As for Sudan's decision to resume relations with Libya, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali reacted favorably in an interview with Paris radio, stressing that Egypt considers the move will consolidate Arab solidarity.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force raided a large "maritime target" near Khark Island on 24 April, Iraq announced in a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. Meanwhile, in a speech to a "popular Islamic conference" broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn revealed that Iraq has suspended its attacks on "selected Iranian targets" out of "respect" and "appreciation" for the Islamic conference in Baghdad. The suspension will remain in force for several days after the departure of the conferees, he added.

For Iran's part, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni derided the mullahs participating in the Baghdad conference as "mercenaries of arrogant powers." In his remarks, broadcast by Tehran radio, Khomeyni also stressed the need for unity and solidarity between the Revolution Guards and regular forces, warning that a divided nation could allow Iran's enemies to stage a coup d'etat to "finish the job." As for Iran's military preparations, President 'Ali Khamene'i said the Iranian Armed Forces will not be forced into a hasty and premature offensive before they are fully organized and supplied, and he added that the attack will come at the "proper" time, according to IRNA.

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Grand Tribal Assembly Proceedings Continue

Karmal Releases Prisoners

LD242137 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] During the proceedings of yesterday's session when the speech of esteemed Babrak Karmal ended amid the enthusiasm and warm reception of the Loya Jirga members, the beloved and dear leader of the people of Afghanistan declared the following:

[Begin recording] Esteemed participants of the Afghan Loya Jirga, allow me to declare that in pursuit of the PDPA's humanitarian policy and in accordance with the DRA's policy — that of occasionally issuing decrees of remission and reduction of prisoners' sentences — once again in your honor, elected delegates of the Afghan people, and in honor of this great and historic Loya Jirga the Revolutionary Council Presidium has assigned a commission to propose to the Revolutionary Council Presidium the release of a number of the prisoners who had not committed severe crimes against the people and who have completed part of the period of their remission. [applause] [end recording]

Provincial Delegates Cited

LD250921 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 24 (BAKHTAR) — The speaker in today's session of Loya Jirga welcomed the convocation of the Grand Assembly which is a reflection of the ancient traditions of the Afghan free born forefathers. They emphasized that the holding of the Loya Jirga is a manifestation of the great attention paid by the party and the state of the DRA for the preservation and development of the national traditions.

Representative of Konar Province, Abdul Rahman Mohand, said that jirgas are the most valuable and inveterate traditions and customs in ancient Afghanistan. He said that the convening of Loya Jirga proves the fact that the leader of the PDPA deeply regards the approved traditions and customs of the Afghan people and that he considers the opinions and will of the people in the state affairs.

A representative of Lowgar Province, Stanekzai, said that the people of the province give their deep support to the measure taken by the party and the state of the DRA to close the borders of Pakistan and Iran from where the bandits infiltrate into the territory of Afghanistan for the commissioning of subversive activities. He assured the audience of the full contribution of the people of his province in defending the country and fighting against the counter-revolution.

Another speaker, Haji Abdul Rashid Kochi, a representative of Helmand Province, said that the people and nomads of his province give their decisive support to the patriotic measure taken by the state of the DRA to close the border for bringing peace and tranquillity in the country. He said that he is sure that the closure of the border does not prevent the traditional movements of the nomads but it will greatly contribute in preventing the infiltration of the bandits and the smuggling of the arms into the territory of Afghanistan.

Haji Abdul Rashid Kochi assured the participants of the Loya Jirga that the people of Helmand Province will fulfill their national and historical duties in the annihilation of the counter-revolutionary elements.

Akbar Khan Waziri, a representative of Paktika Province, said that the people of his province valorously defend their borders as it is the first and foremost duty of the Afghan people.

Abdul Ra'uf, a representative of Nimroz Province said that right now most of the people in his province defend valorously and heroically the borders of the country and foil the aggressions of the reactionary regime of Iran. He added that the people of Nimroz declare in loud voice to the regimes of Iran and Pakistan that if they ignite the flames of war in the Afghan land they will first of all burn their own beard in it.

Delegates Hail Government

LD250932 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 24 BAKHTAR: The participating representatives from all over the DRA in the two-day long Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) in Kabul approved the domestic and foreign policy of the government. They stressed that the long-cherished dreams of the whole population of Afghanistan have come true after the April Revolution. The representatives assessed the holding of the Loya Jirga as highly valuable and fully in line with the ancestral heritage of the Afghans.

The PDPA and the state of the DRA, said Muhammad Hakim, representative of Paktia Province, sincerely and valorously work and struggle to reflect the aspiration, traditions, and the will of the working people of the country in the interests of the whole masses, aimed at building a new society. The government, he said, has taken wide revolutionary paces and that the Afghan people happily welcome changes by expressing their joyous support by performing national dances and marches, throughout the country.

He went on to say that the Paktia people fully support the policy of the DRA and they consider it their duty to maintain peace and security in their frontier regions, and to crush the counterrevolutionaries as a whole.

Representative of Balkh Province, Helalluddin said that the people of the province fully support the state policy by cooperating with the Armed Forces and voluntarily joining revolution and self-defence groups, aimed at safeguarding peace in the country. He added that the people in Balkh Province are ready to defend the April Revolution and honour and dignity of the Afghan people to the last breath of their lives.

Representatives of Kabul Province, Abdul Samad Dehqan stated that he considers Babrak Karmal as the real mentor and servant of the Afghan nation not only today but also during the pre-revolution years; in those days, he added, the revolutionary leader of the Afghan people used to deliver fervent speeches in the then parliaments and meetings which remained indelible in the minds of the Afghan people till today.

The representative of Kabul Province went on to say that he never forgets the impression when Karmal offered a crumb of black barley bread to the then prime minister, reminding him of the plight of the Afghan people. He said that the people of Afghanistan have realised the righteousness of the revolution and that it is the peoples revolution which is in the service of the whole masses in Afghanistan.

The Kabul representative added that the Loya Jirga is in fact the ancestral heritage of the Afghan people and that they always solve their difference by holding such Jirga since times immemorial.

The representatives of the provinces stated that the Government of the DRA has made every effort to provide the working people with land and water and has devoted full attention to education, health aimed at the welfare and prosperity of the Afghan people.

Former Rebel Addresses Assembly

LD250950 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 24, BAKHTAR — Haji Ismatullah, a former counterrevolutionary, addressing today's session of the Loya Jirga said that the oppressions of the clique of Amin forced him to leave the country and join the ranks of the counter-revolution. He stated that the religious traditions of the people and their dignity were trampled down. A large number of the elders, clergymen and scholars of Qandahar and other provinces were martyred.

Haji Ismatullah added that after the new phase of the April Revolution he was entrapped by the intrigues of the CIA and the reaction of Pakistan, who were disseminating poisonous propaganda in the free tribal areas.

He remarks that during his stay in Pakistan he met with General Ziaul Haq several times, and understood his sinister intervention aimed at disintegration of Afghanistan. He said that the Pakistani authorities asked him to set up a new province in Qandahar, Helmand and Oruzgan simlar to the provinces of Pakistan, which should be governed by him. He said that in that case the USA was ready to render him all sided assistance.

He pointed out that from his discussions with the U.S. advisers in Peshawar he had apprehended that their main aim was the disintegration of Afghanistan, which was going to be given effect under the guise of Islam, by General Ziaul Haq and at the behest of the USA, the Chinese hegemonism was adding fuel to this fire. He noted that he could not tolerate the plans of the disintegration of his homeland, and therefore he decided to do away with the counter-revolution and place himself at the service of the April Revolution.

Haji Ismatullah stated that during his stay in Pakistan he had perfectly recognized Gulbuddin, Rabbani, Khalis, Siaf, Sabghatullah, and other ring leaders of the counter revolutionary bands. He had fully known that they were the hirelings of USA and Ziaul Haq, and were bound to disintegrate Afghanistan, he stressed.

Haji Ismatullah pointed out that he was confident that the deceived fugitives would certainly follow his path, and will join the ranks of the youth aimed at defending the gains of the April Revolution.

Gandhi Meets With Tamil Nadu Chief Minister

BK250440 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, had a meeting with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi yesterday on the Sri Lankan issue. Earlier in the day, he met Mr G. Parthasarathy, chairman of the Policy Planning Committee, in the Ministry of External Affairs and had discussions lasting for 1 hour.

Gandhi on Sri Lanka Situation

BK250748 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, announced in the Lok Sabha today that he is setting up a special advisory group to continue the efforts for resolving the problem of Tamils in Sri Lanka. Making a statement, he said that he would also convey to President Jayewardene our distress and anxiety and the need to arrive at a speedy and viable solution to the problem on a political basis acceptable to all parties concerned. Mr Rajiv Gandhi told the house that an all party delegation from Tamil Nadu led by the chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, called on him on Tuesday and submitted a memorandum regarding the latest developments in Sri Lanka. It was pointed out that the influx of refugees is continuing and traditional activities of Indian fishermen in the Palk Strait have been affected. The situation is of grave concern.

Gandhi Addresses Army Chiefs on Regional Security

BK241609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The prime minister has said India should be on guard against becoming a playground for superpowers. Addressing Army commanders in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said this is necessary in the context of the superpowers' interests in the region. The security systems — both internal and external — are under pressure, and we should be especially vigilant because of the induction of modern and sophisticated weapons in the neighborhood.

On the international situation, Mr Gandhi said efforts made by India to reduce tension in our neighborhood have not been entirely successful. Unfortunately, actions taken by some countries have not matched their professions of peace.

The prime minister pointed out that Pakistan has increased its conventional weapons and is trying to develop nuclear capability. The leaders in Sri Lanka have not so far succeeded in defusing the tense situation prevailing there.

Referring to China, Mr Gandhi said the efforts in the recent months to resolve their border issue have not yet made substantial progress.

Lauding the role of the Army, the prime minister said it has held the national flag high in various conflicts and assisted the civil authority in a commendable way in the restoration of law and order. However, efforts will be made to reduce the involvement of the Army in aid to the civil authorities.

About modernization of the Army: The prime minister said all attempts will be made to integrate and coordinate our forces so that our Army is in line with the best in the world.

Earlier, in his address of welcome, the Army chief, General A.S. Vadiya, assured the prime minister of the combat readiness of the Army to meet any threat.

The defense minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has expressed concern over the continued supply of ultramodern defense systems to Pakistan beyond its legitimate requirement. He was replying to a 2-day discussion on defense and security matters at the general body meeting of the Congress-I parliamentary party in New Delhi today. He said India's security environment is coming under increasing pressure, especially because of stockpiling of sophisticated arms across the borders.

Lok Sabha Supports Defense Demands

BK250342 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] In the Lok Sabha, members expressed concern over the induction of sophisticated arms in India's neighborhood and urged the government to keep up the defense preparedness. Participating in the resumed discussion on the budget demands of the Defense Ministry, they emphasized the need to modernize the Armed Forces to meet the challenges. Members also pleaded for better salaries and service conditions for the defense personnel, who, they said, have to work under difficult conditions.

Further Reportage on Situation in Ahmedabad

Government Spokesman Cited

BK241625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The situation in Ahmedabad city is under control. The Army and police are patrolling the city. Briefing newsmen in Ahmedabad this evening, a government spokesman said that three incidents of stabbing were reported from three different areas during the curfew relaxation. In Meghnagar the police fired two rounds to disperse an unruly mob indulging in stone-throwing. No one was injured. In another incident on the Naroda road one person was injured when the police fired one round on a mob indulging in arson.

The spokesman said that 13 persons lost their lives in the last 3 days. The situation in other parts of the state is by and large peaceful barring a few incidents. Indefinite curfew was imposed in Visnagar in Mehsana District from 1600 today following several incidents of stone-throwing. The situation in Broach remained peaceful. However, night curfew continues as a precautionary measure. In Baroda, there were several incidents of stone-throwing and arson.

Meanwhile, in Ahmedabad two relief camps in Bapunagar had been opened by the municipal corporation and the state government. About 4,000 persons are taking shelter in these camps. A large number of voluntary institutions and the local people are helping in the running of these camps.

The Gujarat chief minister, Mr Madhavsinh Solanki, visited all the affected areas along with three MP's of Gujarat. The Gujarat Photo Journalist Association and a number other associations of journalists in the state have condemned the attack on the offices of local dailies in Ahmedabad and on journalists.

Situation 'Under Control'

BK250322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] The situation in Ahmedabad is under control. The Army and police continue to patrol throughout the city. The city police said two incidents of stabbing were reported last night. The curfew is being relaxed today for 2 to 3 hours by rotation in different areas of the city. In Kadi town of Mehsana District, two persons died and five were injured in a clash last night. According to police, two groups of people were indulging in arson. Police fired two rounds to control the mob. The situation of the state, including Baroda and Broach, remained peaceful last night.

Meanwhile, the state government employees have decided not to go on mass casual leave today to press their demands for publication of the Advani committee report on the roster system in government services. The state government employees federation has decided to postpone their program of action following an assurance from the chief minister, Mr Madhavsinh Solanki, that their demands will be considered sympathetically.

The Gujarat governor, Mr B.K. Nehru, is cutting short his stay in Geneva and returning home because of the disturbed conditions in Ahmedabad. In New Delhi, a 5-member opposition delegation from Gujarat met the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, yesterday and urged for immediate central intervention to bring peace in Ahmedabad. Later, talking to newsmen, the leader of the opposition in the Gujarat assembly, Mr Chimanbhai Patel, said the prime minister gave them a patient hearing.

2 Killed in Bihar Poll Violence; 240 Arrested

BK250432 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Counting of votes has been taken up this morning in all the constituencies where by-elections were held yesterday except Bareilly city in Uttar Pradesh. The results are expected in the afternoon.

As already reported, repoll takes place today in three polling booths in the Bareilly city assembly constitutency following reports of some irregularities. Yesterday's polling covered 3 Lok Sabha and 26 assembly constituencies spread over 11 states.

According to the Bihar state home commissioner, the polling in all the five assembly constituencies was peaceful barring a few stray incidents of violence in which two persons were killed and one injured. Over 240 people were arrested during the polling.

PAKISTAN

Afghan Aircraft Violate Airspace; Protest Lodged

BK241529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Four Afghan aircraft violating Pakistan's airspace entered up to nearly 4 km into the Arandu area of the Chitral region yesterday morning. The Afghan aircraft dropped two bombs on Pakistan's territory nearly 3 km southeast of Arandu, however there has been no report of any loss of life or property.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad this afternoon and a strong protest was lodged with him over this unprovoked attack.

Hijacking Case Hearing Adjourned Until 28 April

BK251023 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] The trial of the Indian nationals accused of hijacking an Indian airliner to Pakistan's territory in September 1981 was resumed in a special court in Lahore this morning. The prosecution team and defense counsels were present in the court. All the five accused were also present. The first prosecution witness was cross-examined by defense counsels. A defense counsel was cross-examining the prosecution witness when the proceedings were adjourned till Sunday morning.

Afghan Mujahidin Attack Reported in Qandahar

BK250825 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that mujahidin attacked a Herat bazaar bank in Qandahar city killing 15 members of the Soviet-Karmal forces. After getting reinforcements, the mujahidin besieged the Soviet-Karmal soldiers and attacked them with rockets. One tank and two military vehicles were damaged. The Soviet-Karmal soldiers had to retreat leaving 11 dead. Three soldiers were captured. Another report says Soviet planes launched rockets on 2 buses, killing 26 civilians.

SRI LANKA

Army Deployed in East To Quell Sectarian Clashes

HK241108 Hong Kong AFP in English 0956 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Colombo, April 24 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government today decided to send troops to the troubled Eastern Province where violence between Tamils and Muslims in the past two weeks has left 200 dead by an unofficial count.

Cabinet spokesman State Minister Anandatissa de Alwis said government ministers in consultation with the security services decided to strengthen the forces already in the area.

Violence flared today in Nochchiamunai on the outskirts of Batticaloa, the eastern capital, where the number of Tamil houses were set ablaze by Muslims, a spokesman for the main Tamil political party the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) said.

The source said that reports from the area placed the death toll in two weeks of violence at around 200.

Unofficial reports from other sources said between 50 and 75 were dead. The government yesterday said 28 people had died.

The violence first erupted after Tamil separatists killed three Muslims in northwestern Mannar District this month.

This triggered incidents in Ampara District of the Eastern Province between the two groups, both minorities in Sri Lanka.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told the Cabinet that the violence was a result of failure by Tamil militants to win over the Muslims to the militants' armed struggle for an independent state in the north and east, Mr De Alwis said.

The security minister had said that the Muslims publicly demonstrated against the violence used by the militants to harrass Muslims and other residents of the area.

Mr De Alwis denied reports in some of the international media that the security forces had been involved in the disturbances.

He also said that a statement by Tamil Cabinet member Savumiamoorthy Thondaman that outsiders had infiltrated the area and fomented the attacks was incorrect.

Informed sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that Mr Thondaman had given president Junius Jayewardene the license numbers of several vehicles which tried to penetrate the Eastern Province, apparently bus loads of Muslims.

The province is manned by a special task force of police trained by former commands of the British Special Air Services.

Two Tamil cabinet ministers, Bill Devanayagam and Chilliah Rajadurai, accompanied by District Minister Ranga Pathmanathan, left for the east today, official sources said.

Celebration of Guards Day Continues in Tehran

Khomeyni Address

LD241523 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Speech by Imam Khomeyni at 24 April Guards Day celebration in Tehran — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I express my greetings to you, to the entire nation, to all Muslims and oppressed people of the world on the occasion of this auspicious feast. May God grant us the honor of satisfying this noble person who has been the source of all benevolence and blessings throughout history [Imam Hoseyn]. Of course, I am going to talk to you gentlemen briefly, as follows: The prophets, from beginning to end, and all the saints and ulema, from the beginning of history to the end, they were all guardians of Islam and guardians of the religion of justice. All through the ages they were all Muslims submitting to Almighty God. They were not the guardians by word and verbal propaganda alone, rather they were guardians in practice, and this is the important point. That is, their deeds throughout history should be a model and example to us and all historians forever.

When you study the method used by prophets, you realize that they sacrificed everything for the sake of their guardianship. They shouldered all the burden through history. If other saints of God had to face the situation of the lord of the martyrs, they would have shown the same self-sacrifices. But each era was different and there were different situations. The aim was to safeguard Islam and God's commandments and to spread knowledge and monotheism. In other words, the aim was man-making. Prophets came with the mission of making people humane. The prophets have come to save man, as Satan has taken an oath to deceive him. They came to liberate man from the yoke of Satan and invite him to the direct path of humanity. They were commissioned to show the direct path in practice and how he should stand against satans, either satans reincarnated as men or other types. Man can resist other satans by mortification, and can resist those satans that are in human form by striving hard to achieve his goals and through piety.

I do not believe that there have ever been so many satans in the past. The era in which we are now living has the most. Of course, human devils have existed throughout history, but together with progress and development in the world these devils have developed modern methods in their satanic deeds.

Today, when the world is supposedly advanced and when it is supposed to be the age of progress and civilization, it is in fact the age of satans. If you look throughout the world, you will see it is in the hands of satans. There are only very few exceptions. With their satanic deceits and with the satanic means they possess, they have brought the whole world under their control; and each day they are advancing. Each day they hatch new plots. In the face of such a great conspiracy and in the face of such highly-trained satans, the satans of the age of civilization, mankind should arise, in the same way that all the prophets of God and all the saints arose and gave up their lives. In this age too all of you, all of us, all the members of the clergy, all nations, all those who have been oppressed should arise and should confront these satans. If you show any slackness, the satans will devour the entire world. In the name of loving peace, they are the foremost warmongers of the world. In the name of human rights they trample on human rights more than anyone else. While they make claims of being philanthropic, they only wish evil for others. They want to have everything for themselves and they trample others under foot. At such a time when the world is full of evil-doers and criminals, a transformation took place Iran, with the grace of Almighty God. As the result of God's bounty, this nation was transformed from its previous situation to its present situation.

You should know that the more world propaganda and world satans say against you, that is the sign of your strength. If you were not powerful as a result of Islam and as a result of the true guards of Islam, they would leave you alone. The fact that there is so much propaganda against you in the world, the fact that whenever you turn on a foreign radio you see that they are engaged in hostile propaganda against Iran in different forms, this shows that they have recognized your power. They feel threatened by you young people. They feel threatened by you, the Armed Forces. It is due to their feeling of fear that they have become active throughout the world and are trying to find a way to extinguish this fire. In their eyes it is a fire, but it is blessing, although they see it as a fire. They wish to extinguish this fire by any means possible.

Today you see that nearly 400, or between 300 and 400 mullahs from various parts of the world have assembled in Baghdad. They have come together because those mullahs are the mercenaries of arrogant powers, and they are worried lest the world of arrogance might be destroyed and that they too might be smashed along with it. All the propaganda waged against you young people and, in fact against Islam, is due to the fact that they have felt your strength. This strength does not belong to me or to you. This is something we must understand. This might emanates from the source of might — God. The power the prophets possessed did not belong to them either. From the beginning to the end, man is nothing. Whatever this is, is the power of God. Whatever movement you make is due to God's power. Every bullet that you fire is due to the power of God. It is with God's power that your hand presses the trigger. It is as the result of God's power that your (?children) go and perform all those deeds, all the military and nonmilitary deeds. All power belongs to Him and all of us should belong to Him. We are from God and everything belongs to him. Thanks be to God (?the power) is his. You might imagine that Iran is powerful now, but this is the power of God that has manifested itself here. You should be grateful that you are sailing with the power of God. You are moving with the power of God the same way as did those close friends of God, who were headed by the saint. You should move in this manner to strengthen the tenets of Islam and to eradicate the oppression of the meek. You began your move in this way empty-handed. You began with nothing at the time when the regime had all the might.

It was with this concept that you arose at a time when all the power was in the hands of the sh[illegible] regime, and when all the powers were trying to protect him. At that time, you young men poured onto the streets and acted in such a way that even

American power could not protect the former regime. The whole world was intent on protecting him and keeping him in power. They used all the means at their disposal to keep him in power. Yet your power did not allow them to achieve their aim.

The secret behind this power is that right from the start you were not interested in yourselves, you were interested in Islam. You were working for the Islamic country. If, God forbid, one day the Armed Forces go their own way, the Guards Corps go their way and the Mobilization units go their way, on that day all of you will be destroyed. If some day, God forbid, you give up your unity and your solidarity, and the fact that you are all like a single arm for the protection of your country and for the protection of Islam; so long as you are as one, nobody will be able to break you. However, if you are dispersed; even if there are millions of individuals each of whom thinks differently and each of whom wishes to do something for his own sake, they are worth nothing. But if there are only a small number of people who are acting not for their own sake, but for the sake of their ideology, for their country and for their Islam; even a small number of people who act together toward a common goal will reach their goal.

Compared to the rest of the world, Iran's population is very small: 45 million or so is nothing compared to the population of the world, whereas China has a 1 billion population, India has 800 million or more. We are nothing, but you have given up your egos and, say we, for the sake of God.

You are not saying that the Armed Forces should receive decorations. You are not saying that the Guards Corps should be decorated. You are not saying that the Mobilization units, or the committees, or the police should be decorated. You say that you expect your recompense from God and that all of us are as one body. If you can maintain this spirit right to the end you will be victorious. No one will be able to harm you. The great powers also know this. They know that at the moment Iran is in such a state that they will not be able to defeat it by any means; neither through coup d'etat, nor by other means, nor by military invasion. They have now decided to infiltrate you and to separate you from one another, even though it takes a long time. They are patient; they have a great deal of patience. They sow a seed now that they can reap in 50 years.

As from now, if you notice that they are sowing a seed that they might be able to reap results from in 50 years, then you should trample upon that seed and crush it with you feet. If you ever hear a murmur that the Armed Forces should protect the Armed Forces, and that the guards should protect the Guards Corps; that you should be separate from one another; one by one, two goals; if, God forbid, you ever heard such a murmur, you should crush it from the start and should not let it continue.

You, who are the commanders of the Guards Corps should pay attention to this matter; and those who are in charge of the Armed Forces and in other places, they should all pay attention to this fact: That so long as you are together, so long as the Muslims are like a single hand — this small number of Muslims enjoying divine assistance — if they became as one then no power can destroy them. All of you should fix your attention upon this fact. You should constantly try to maintain your brotherhood, and to create friendship among yourselves. The members of the clergy should be like brothers to one another; they should keep the nation on their side and should protect them. The nation should also be united with one another and with the members of the clergy, and with others. So long as you are like this you will be victorious. If, God forbid, one day they succeed in depriving you of this secret of your victory, then nothing will be left to you. Then they need not resort to great force against you, merely a small coup-d'etat from somewhere will finish the job.

You should bear in mind that you have made Islam powerful throughout the world and all the noise raised throughout the world that they want Islam, all that is a ray that has emanated from Iran. In the past this did not exist. These rays have gone from Iran to everywhere; and these rays will do their work everywhere. We should safeguard this source; we should protect the center of these rays. You should protect yourselves and should reject and repulse all the satans that want to dominate us, so that Almighty God may multiply his bounties to you, may make them a hundred-fold, that you may become victorious and may protect the wronged ones.

I express many thanks to all you dear youths and to all those who are sacrificing themselves in the path of Islam, who are giving up their lives for the sake of Islam, who have given up everything they possess for the sake of Islam. My gratitude is nothing. Almighty God is pleased with you. God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Khomeyni Receives Officials

LD241419 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] On the auspicious occasion of the anniversary of the birthday of the lord of the martyrs, His Holiness Hoseyn ibn-'Ali, peace be upon him, and the Guards Day, officials from various offices of the imam's representatives in the Guards Corps, accompanied by Mahallati, the representative of the imam in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Mohsen Reza'i, the guards commander; Rafiqdust, the guards minister; Colonel Sohrabi, the chief of the Joint Staff; Rahmani, the official in charge of the Mobilization units; Salik, the deputy director of Islamic Revolution committees; members of the Supreme Council of the Guards Corps; the guards commanders throughout the country; a number of the members of the Mobilization units and Islamic Revolution committees; members of the Ground Forces, Air Force, Navy, the Joint Staff, the police, gendarmerie, and the Guards Ministry were received by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic Revolution and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, this morning in Jamaran Hoseyniyeh.

In this meeting, first the song "Khomeyni, O Imam" was chanted. Then, Mr Mahallati, the representative of the imam in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, while expressing his congratulations on the occasion of the auspicious birthday of His Holiness Imam Hoseyn, peace be upon him, and introducing those who were present, submitted a report about the self-sacrifices of the various Armed Forces and security forces and the active presence of the members of the clergy in the fronts.

Khamene'i Discusses Offensive

LD241332 Tehran IRNA in English 1241 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — President Khamene'i said here today that the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran will not be forced into a hasty military offensive before fully organizing and supplying their units.

He also said "those who think they can force a defeat and a compromise on the Islamic Republic through a treacherous peace plan are mistaken".

"The revolution will not be defeated by war, and with the grace of God our combatants will win at the fronts".

Khamene'i was speaking to the members of the Armed Forces in Imam Hoseyn Barracks in Tehran in a ceremony marking the day of "Pasdar" (Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps).

"The Armed Forces should not lose the opportunity to attack the enemy but they must also use the opportunity to organize themselves" he said.

The president said that the enemy was plotting to force the Islamic Republic into a premature offensive..."They want to destroy our forces first and then to create an international mood to force our nation into foregoing its rights," he said.

"This plot will never succeed with a nation that has carried out a revolution and which has defeated its greatest enemies in the world".

The war is our historic test and the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to win it, the president said.

"We cannot be apathetic to defence, the most sensitive issue in the country, (because) the superpowers are waiting like wolves to tear the revolution to pieces."

"We have to defend our country and its Islamic values. The issues of the Armed Forces is of utmost importance".

The president described the military situation in the fronts as good and said the Iraqi regime has become greatly concerned after the recent Badr offensive in the southern front.

"They were hoping that our forces did not have the power to attack, but they saw how our forces entered their lines from the most difficult positions and destroyed their defense lines and went deep inside to threaten the Baghdad-Ammara highway."

Khamene'i said today the forces of the Islamic Republic enjoyed good morale while the Iraqi Army was feeling pessimistic about the future of the war.

"We have the upper hand and the initiative," he said.

"The enemy can not force us into a hasty act and our forces will attack the enemy at the proper time," he said.

IRGC Commander Speaks

LD242024 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Army divisions paraded past the Imam Hoseyn Square on the last day of the Armed Forces Week and the Islamic Revolution's Guards (Pasdar) Day here today as helicopters flying overhead showered flowers on them and by-standers, while the people cheered the Islamic combatants and chanted slogans in support for them to continue the war in the battlefronts.

During the ceremonies on the occasion of the day which also coincides with the anniversary of the fiasco of a U.S. military aggression in Tabas of Iran and with the anniversary of the birthday of Imam Hoseyn, IRGC Commander Mohsen Reza'i said during his speech to a large audience at the square that as repeatedly declared since the outbreak of the war Iran will never "sit for negotiation at a table occupied on one side by a war criminal [Saddam Husayn]."

He said immediately after the successful thrust during the Badr operations (mid March) against the Iraqi positions the supporters of the Baghdad government designed the war of the cities as a last scheme to resort to for pulling the Islamic Republic to the negotiation table but reminded that the dictates of the holy Koran "prevents us from agreeing to a peace treaty promoted by forces."

The parade started with a march of a group of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps carrying models of ancient arms as used by Muslim combatants during the battle of Badr in the early history of Islam. Later a number of divisions of the Armed Forces marched past a volume of the holy Koran followed by marches by members of the Islamic Revolution committees, the IRGC, Basij, and law enforcement and police officers.

In his speech to the Armed Forces personnel and the audience the secretary of the combatant ulema society of Tehran Ayatollah Mahdavi Kani said that members of the ulema in Iran had contributed their share to the war and that since the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war so far about one thousand of them had been martyred in the battlefronts and in the conduct of their religious duties, while several thousands of them had become disabled as a result of injuries.

He said the ulema have an unbreakable bond of unity with the Muslim combatants working for the eventual extermination of the enemies of the Islamic Revolution.

Ground Forces Chief Speaks

LD241757 Tehran IRNA in English 1737 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Esfahan, Esfahan Pr., April 24, IRNA — Iran's Ground Force Commander Col. 'Ali Sayyad-Shirazi says he forsees an end in sight to the war and a fall from power of the Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn.

The Ground Forces commander was addressing a group of relatives of martyrs, the personnel and commanders of the Armed Forces and college students and educators at Esfahan

University on the occasion of the last day of the "Armed Forces Week" here today.

He said as a result of the defensive operations of the Iranian troops the Iraqi forces have long since been disconcerted and panic-stricken.

At this juncture of the history of the Islamic Revolution the masses from all walks of life are expected to extend a helpful hand to Iran's Muslim combatants in whatsoever manner they can, he added.

The ceremonies at the university also featured a gifting of a portrait of Imam Khomeyni to the Ground Force commander and of awards to the educators of the health science school of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps and to three highest-ranking students of the school.

Military Parade Held

LD241250 Tehran IRNA in English 1142 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — The Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps units Wednesday paraded through the streets of Tehran to mark the Revolution's Guards Day.

The day coincides with the birth anniversary of Imam Hoseyn the grandson of Prophet Mohammad.

The stream of mechanized and armoured units set off from the Imam Hoseyn barracks in east Tehran to the chants of "War, war, till victory" of the Muslim believers who lined the two sides of the streets.

The parade included the mortar, artillery, and anti-aircraft missile units of the corps. Frogmen and mobile anti-chemical weapons units who had participated in recent war operations were also on parade.

Similar ceremonies were also held elsewhere in the country today to mark the occasion.

Cabinet Meeting Approves War Support Commission

LD241649 Tehran IRNA in English 1530 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Iranian Cabinet ministers met Wednesday [24 April] and discussed current domestic and regional developments. In this meeting, chaired by Premier Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the Cabinet approved the formation of a war support commission for seeing to the needs of the war fronts. The commission comprises ministers of industries, heavy industries, mines and metals, construction jihad, energy, Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps, defence, post-telegraph-telephone (PTT), and commerce.

The Cabinet also gave its approval to a proposal naming the current year as the "Youths International Year," at the urging of the Higher Education Ministry. It also approved the establishment of an Iran-India mutual commission, proposed by the Foreign Ministry.

Musavi Opens Seminar on Radio, TV Production Plans

LD231301 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 23, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Tuesday opened a three-day seminar on planning, production and broadcast of radio and T.V. programs for Tehran. Minister of Islamic Guidance Mohammad Khatami, head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) Mohammad Hashemi, and a number of other officials were also present.

Speaking to the seminar, the prime minister said that radio and T.V. should not be regarded as a one-way medium since it reflects to the people what it has gained from them.

He said that since the government in Iran was a collective body at the service of the people, issues of the government were not separate from those of the people. Radio and T.V. should become means for the propagation of government policies aimed at serving the people.

Addressing the gathering, Hashemi noted that as Imam Khomeyni has stated, the objective of radio and T.V. should be the preservation of Islam and achievements of the Islamic Revolution.

After the lapse of seven years, he added, radio and T.V. were trying to base their programs on education and training.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Speaks to Guards on War

LD241731 Tehran IRNA in English 1642 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — The spokeman for the Supreme Defence Council (SDC), Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said today that there has been an all-out effort by the enemies of Islam to force the Islamic Republic to forego its demand to overthrow of the Ba'th regime. But he said: "We want to punish...those who occupied our country"

Rafsanjani said the desire to surrender had become widespread in the Iraqi Army and the country's economic situation was much worse that in previous years.

"Iraq is as vulnerable as a piece of paper under pouring rain."

On the other hand, he said Iran has "the full capability to advance in the battle fronts and our people have extraordinary tolerance and are well prepared to tolerate the future of the war."

Iran's economic situation has also bettered each year since the start of the war.

Speaking to a group of Islamic Revolution's Guards, he said the enemies of Islam sent out the Iraqi regime on a mission to destroy the Islamic Revolution.

But now they are trying to save Saddam by deploying all their capabilities: delivering arms and various missiles to Iraq and equipping agents inside Iran to force Iran not to demand the overthrow of the Iraqi regime, which is Iran's "most important" demand.

Rafsanjani, who is Imam Khomeyni's representative in the SDC, castigated France for not allowing doctors to speak on the state of Iranian combatants being treated in French hospitals for Iraqi chemical weapons attacks.

Such a prohibition by France, which claims to be a progressive and democratic country, shows that "they are threatened. They fear Islam."

"They fear a wounded combatant of the war whose body is burning all over from chemicals."

Foreign Minister Meets With SAIRI Members

LD241647 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — A group of members of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), Tuesday [23 April] met and conferred with the Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

In the meeting Velayati said that SAIRI should expand its political activities all over the world with regards to the extensive support given to it by the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries.

He also recommended that more revelations be made about crimes of Saddam's regime specially those concerning the murder of Iraqi Muslim theologians.

Velayati said that if Saddam is removed, peace and calm would return to the region.

Foreign Ministry Seeks Increased POW Exchange

LD241302 Tehran IRNA in English 1235 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA - The Iranian Foreign Ministry in a statement issued here Wednesday urged international organisations to make the Iraqi regime to yield to the exchange of POW's and release disabled and civilian prisoners. The statement appealed to all relevant international bodies to take necessary measures in this respect.

The statement added that contrary to the good intentions and humanitarian attitude of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards the Iraqi POW's, the Iraqi regime has been harrassing, torturing and mistreating the Iranian POW's and the civilians abducted in the early days of the war. This mistreatment of the Iranian POW's, has been confirmed by a U.N. team dispatched to investigate the status of the POW's, it added.

The Iraqi regime has been trying to exploit the issue of the POW's for its own political ends, the statement said.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, it continued, has proved that it respects international regulations concerning the POW's and the Geneva Convention of 1949 in particular.

Within this framework, it added, Iran has been providing the Iraqi POW's with all kinds of facilities, including arranging visits between the POW's and their families. Therefore, every month names of one thousand Iraqi POW's who can meet their family members are published in mass media.

In addition, the statement added, the Islamic Republic of Iran has shown its good-will towards the release and return of the disabled Iraqi POW's and twice has unilaterally released a number of them. Actions are under way to release another group of 47 [figure as received] in the near future unilaterally.

The statement concluded by urging international organisations to make the Iraqi regime to treat the Iranian POW's humanely and at the same time take measures for the gradual release of the POW's of both countries. As part of this effort, it added, at the first stage the release of all disabled prisoners and the youth and those who have been in captivity for more than two years should be sought on a bilateral basis in equal numbers.

Turkish Officials Discuss Exchange

LD241652 Tehran IRNA in English 1512 GMT 24 Apr 85

["Turkish Playing Leading Role in Iran-Iraq POW Swap" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Turkish and Iranian heads of Red Crescent Societies Wednesday [24 April] expressed the hope that "eligible prisoners" of the imposed Iraqi war will be exchanged.

The head of the Turkish Red Crescent Society Somuncu and his Iranian counterpart Dr. Vahid Dastjerdi expressed this sentiment in a meeting in which details of Iran's unilateral release of 48 disabled Iraqi prisoners of war was discussed.

The decision to fly the Iraqi POW's via the Turkish capital was announced Tuesday in a statement by the Foreign Ministry of Islamic Republic of Iran.

In the meeting Dr. Dastjerdi expressed the hope that "arrangements will be made for the repatriation of eligible Iranian prisoners".

He said Iran's unilateral act of freeing disabled Iraqi POW's indicated the good intentions of the Islamic Republic.

The Turkish official said that in contacts with the Iraqi Government it was intimated that POW's of both sides be freed who met such conditions. Turkey was prepared to act upon the humanitarian issues of the war and exerted utmost efforts in this respect, he added.

He quoted the Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal as saying that Turkey found consolation in the fact that its Red Crescent Society was active in the exchange of prisoners.

The two sides also discussed Iraq's use of chemical weapons. Somuncu said "Turkey has clearly stated its opposition to the use of such weapons".

Iraqi POW's To Meet With Relatives 25 April

LD241653 Tehran IRNA in English 1529 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Relatives of Iraqi prisoners of war will meet their loved ones at Takhti POW camp at 9:00 local time (5:30) Thursday. [25 April] Domestic and foreign reporters holding valid press cards may attend the family visits.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communique on War

LD241723 Tehran IRNA in English 1652 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 24, IRNA — Military communique of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces issued today said Iraqi concentration points, bunkers and equipment were hit by heavy gun fire by the Islamic combatants in the northern fronts of Sardasht, Hajj 'Umran, and Panjwin in the past 24 hours.

All Iraqi activities in these fronts were thwarted by the while parts of the enemy's defence lines were destroyed. [sentence as received]

In central fronts, exchange of fire was more intense in Sumar and Halaleh. The movement of Iraqi vehicles were halted in these fronts and human and equipment losses were inflicted upon them.

An Iraqi patrol group spotted in Sumar region during this period was forced to flee by the fire of Islamic defenders.

In the southern fronts, parts of Iraqi bunkers were demolished. West of Arvand River, seven enemy positions, a truck carrying personnel and a heavy drilling machine of the enemy were destroyed.

Iraqi Revolutionaries Attack Saddam's Car, 4 Dead

LD242031 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] The Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries recently by launching a bazooka rocket against the car carrying Saddam, head of the regime ruling over Iraq, killed four of his bodyguards. This attack of the Muslim revolutionaries took place at a time when Saddam was heading for his presidential palace along with his special escort.

Reports reaching here from Iraq indicated following this attack the security forces of the regime ruling over Iraq blocked all the roads around the airport for 4 days arresting and interrogating the suspects, but did not succeed in finding the Muslim revolutionaries.

On the other hand, the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries in a series of operations detonated two cars carrying bombs a few hours prior to Saddam's arrival in the city of Tikrit.

According to the news bulletin of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq the intensity of this explosion was to the extent that 150 special guards of Saddam, who had gone to the Tikrit city for security measures, were killed.

DPA: Regime Detains 1,000 Antiwar Demonstrators

LD250941 Hamburg DPA in German 0911 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Text] Frankfurt: 25 Apr (DPA) — Approximately 1,000 people are in detention in Iran since the end of last week because they took part in peaceful demonstrations in Tehran for a settlement of the Iran-Iraq war. This was reported on Thursday by the International Association for Human Rights (IGFM) in Frankfurt. The statement says that the demonstrators had responded to a call by the former Iranian Prime Minister, Shahpur Bakhtiar, now living in France.

According to the IGFM information, the detainees were arbitrarily snatched from the mass of demonstrators. There were also numerous women and young people among them.

The IGFM has sent a telex to Federal Foriegn Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and requested a joint initiative by the European community. "These people took nonviolent action for peace with great personal risk and therefore deserve our full solidarity."

Afghan Government Reportedly Executing Mujahidin

GF230906 Tehran KAYHAN International in English 14 Apr 85 London Weekly Edition p 5

[Excerpt] The Afghan Government, which holds 50,000 political prisoners without trial, is summarily executing captured mujahidin. Their torture is so commonplace that it has "almost assumed the character of administrative practice". A former Afghan security officer admits using eight techniques including electric shock and forcing prisoners to drink urine. He also disclosed how a husband was forced to witness the rape of his eight-month pregnant wife.

Failure of the occupation army to break the mujahidin's will to resist has led to ever stronger reprisals. The communist forces are consolidating in areas where the mujahidin are strongest. Towards the end of January a reinforcement of 3,000 joined 4,000 Karmal soldiers in the Gardez area in the south. In four-foot deep snow the mujahidin repelled a two-pronged Soviet offensive against the supply lines, forcing them to fall back to their bases. The fierce fighting began on February 18 when intense Soviet bombing to cut supplies and lift a two year blockade of an Afghan base sent villagers into the hills for safety. Despite using helicopters to carry commandos to destroy ambushes laid by the mujahidin ahead of their convoys, the Russian advance was forced to retreat.

The mujahidin have achieved notable successes in the eastern provinces but they are still under extreme Soviet pressure. Improved weaponry and increasingly sophisticated tactics are taking a heavy toll, creating a mood of despondency. In the last six months 11 mujahidin commanders have been killed in action after their groups were infiltrated by informers. Infiltrators professing sincerity by uttering "Allah O Akbar" and "Down with Russians" get absorbed into the Islamic movement which they quickly betray.

The Afghan secret service, Khad, is helping to train Soviet commando units for day and night, hit-and-run tactics against

the mujahidin. Equipped with small radios transmitting signals showing mujahidin positions they are able to pinpoint groups led by senior officers.

KEYHAN on Clashes Between Guards, Afghan Refugees

GF230916 London KEYHAN in Persian 18 Apr 85 p 2

[Text] In a clash between guards and Afghans living in Mashhad, some 50 refugees were killed and at least 100 wounded. The attack by guards on the Afghan refugee camp occurred in late March. The guards had gone to the camp to select individuals for dispatch to the fronts.

The Afghan refugees did not receive the guards very well and stated that they did not have any wish to go to the fronts. This led to a clash in which over 50 people were killed and more than 100 severely wounded. The Islamic Republic officials did not allow publication of any reports of this incident. However, Kabul radio and a number of news agencies later carried this report noting that the guards were trying to draft the Afghans and that in the ensuing clash the unarmed Afghans suffered heavy losses.

After the incident the guards went on a rampage and burned Afghan shops in Mashhad, killing more people. Apparently Afghan refugees have so far refused to accept forced draft and dispatch to the fronts of the war with Iraq. In addition, according to reliable reports, a group of Mashhadis, including families of martyrs and those missing in action, gathered in the courtyard of the shrine and while holding the decree by Ayatollah Qomi issued against the war, chanted slogans against the war and its instigators. The guards immediately surrounded the demonstrators and forced them to disperse by firing shots in the air. There has been no report of losses in this incident as yet.

In Kermanshah, Hamadan, and Dezful, which suffered the greatest losses in the recent Iraqi attacks, sporadic antiwar demonstrations also broke out during the week.

In addition, antiwar slogans can now extensively be seen on the walls of large cities including Tehran. People use every opportunity including blackouts during Iraqi air raids to express their hatred for and disgust of the regime.

Heavy Industries Ministry May Be Dissolved

GF231822 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 85

[Text] One of the Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondents in Tehran has confirmed the rumors of the dissolution in the near future of the regime's Heavy Industries Ministry. In his report he says: This ministry is considered one of the nascent government organizations that sprouted in the aftermath of the accursed revolution of Khomeyni and that is being administered under the supervision of Behzad Nabavi, the former Tudeh Party member.

According to our correspondent, the Islamic regime established this ministry for plunder and pillage and, in order to deceive the people, it was constantly announced that this organization has resuscitated the master industries that were bankrupt. Behzad Nabavi also made false promises that with Soviet cooperation, that is, with the cooperation of his former mentor, three new steel mills would be built in Iran. Besides him, some offspring of the mullahs had taken up responsible posts in the regime's Heavy Industries Ministry, but until today, there was no sign of the resuscitation of heavy industries in Iran.

The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent adds that in less than a year since the inception of this ministry, the scourge of bribery and corruption rose so alarmingly that it forced the regime's authorities to impeach some of the Heavy Industry Ministry's directors and officials in various courts of the regime in rigged trials.

Some time ago, the Majlis of the mullahs approved a clause of the bill and extended the life of this ministry for another 6 months so that its accounts could be checked and then perhaps the ministry could be dissolved.

Our correspondent concludes: The reason for the dissolution of the Heavy Industries Ministry of the Khomeyni regime is the budget deficit, failure to pay the salaries of government employees, discrepancies in the economic situation, the mullah government's ignorance in running factories and industries of the country, and the expanding of the network of corruption in government organizations.